

Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 USIA-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

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R 121040Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGUI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6540

UNCLAS BANGUI 0054

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, CT (MAIDOU, CHRISTOPHE)

SUBJECT: PARTIAL VIP GRANT FOR CHRISTOPHE MAIDOU

1. EMBASSY HEREBY NOMINATES CAR AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE TO THE U.S. CHRISTOPHE MAIDOU FOR A PARTIAL VIP IV GRANT. AS EMBASSY HAS DISCUSSED ON PREVIOUS OCCASIONS WITH CU, WE FEEL THAT A TOUR OF AMERICAN HINTERLAND FOR THE CAR AMBASSADOR WHO NORMALLY SELDOM LEAVES WASHINGTON OR NEW YORK WOULD ENHANCE HIS UNDERSTANDING OF THE US AND HIS EFFECTIVENESS AS AN AMBASSADOR. AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE EMBASSIES FROM SMALL FRANCOPHONE AFRICAN COUNTRIES OFTEN PROVIDE THEIR GOVERNMENTS WITH THEIR ONLY VIEW OF THE UNITED STATES WHICH IS LIMITED BY LANGUAGE BARRIER AND NARROW WASHINGTON PERSPECTIVE.

2. GRANT WOULD BE A PARTIAL VIP FOR DOMESTIC TRAVEL AND PER DIEM ONLY. MAIDOU WILL HAVE A-1 VISA. ENGLISH FAIR - ESCORT INTERPRDTER REQUIRED.

3. EMBASSY SUGGESTS SUGGESTS THAT DURING PROPOSED ORIENTATION TOUR MAIDOU SHOULD TOUCH BASE WITH CAR'S AMERICAN FRIENDS IN HOUSTON, ASTRONAUT ROOSA NASA; SEATTLE JONAS BROS.? AND NEW YORK DIAMOND DISTRIBUTOR'S INTERNATIONAL, ETC. BELIEVE THAT ITINERARY SHOULD ALSO INCLUDE ORLANDO, LOS ANGELES AND CHICAGO. MAIDOU WILL HAVE BETWEEN TWO AND THREE WEEKS FOR TRIP WHICH COULD HOPEFULLY TAKE PLACE SHORTLY AFTER FEB 15. MAIDOU COULD BE PROGRAMED TO MEET BUSINESS GROUPS, CLUBS, UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND OTHER SIMILAR GROUPS.

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4. BIO DATA - BORN FEB 14, 1936. EDUCATED LOCAL LYCEES, ATTENDED
INSTITUE OF HIGHER INATERNATIONAL STUDIES AT GENEVA UNIVERSITY.
JOINED FOREIGN MINISTRY 1962. SERVED AS FIRST SECRETARY
PARIS, FOREIGN MINISTRY BANGUI 1966, HAS SERVED AS CAR'S
AMBASSADOR TO ZAIRE, (66-68) YUGOSLAVIA (68-70) JAPAN (70-71)
USA (71-73) AND ALGERIA (73-75).

5. ALTHOUGH MAIDOU IS PROFESSIONAL DIPLOMAT, WIDELY TRAVELED AND
HAS EVEN SERVED TOUR IN WASHINGTON. HIS KNOWLEDGE OF US IS
LIMITED. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT PROPOSED GRANT FULLY IN LINE
WITH POST CU OBJECTIVES AND IN OUR BILATERAL INTEREST.

6. PLEASE CONFIRM GRANT APPROVAL AND FORWARD ADDITIONAL
PROGRAM AND ITINERARY SUGGESTIONS.SWING

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